

Amendments to the Claims:

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and Listings of Claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A grading implement comprising:

a main body including a left end, a right end and a length that extends between the left and right ends, the main body also including a front and a back, the main body further including a first channel member having a length that extends between the left and right ends of the main body, the first channel member including a top wall and first and second spaced-apart flanges that extend downwardly from the top wall, the top wall and the first and second flanges extending along the length of the first channel member, the first flange of the first channel member being located at the front of the main body and the second flange being rearwardly spaced from the first flange, the first flange forming at least a portion of a front plow blade that extends between the left and right ends of the main body, and the first channel member also including an open bottom side;

end plates positioned at the left and right ends of the main body, the end plates including portions that extend rearwardly beyond the main body so as to define a volume behind the main body between the end plates, the volume being adapted for receiving grading material when the implement is moved rearwardly; and

a rear blade positioned at the back of the main body, the rear blade having a cutting edge that faces in a rearward direction, and the rear blade having a length that extends between the end plates; and

wherein the main body further includes a second channel member having a length that extends between the left and right ends of the main body, the second channel member being positioned behind the first channel member, wherein the rear blade is positioned adjacent the second channel member.

2. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, further comprising means for coupling the implement to an attachment structure provided on the front lift arms of a skid steer loader.

3. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, wherein the end plates are oriented in generally vertical planes, wherein the end plates are generally perpendicular relative to the length

of the main body, and wherein the end plates include portions that extend upwardly higher than a top surface of the main body.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The implement of claim 1,~~ A grading implement comprising:

a main body including a left end, a right end and a length that extends between the left and right ends, the main body also including a front and a back, the main body further including a first channel member having a length that extends between the left and right ends of the main body, the first channel member including a top wall and first and second spaced-apart flanges that extend downwardly from the top wall, the top wall and the first and second flanges extending along the length of the first channel member, the first flange of the first channel member being located at the front of the main body and the second flange being rearwardly spaced from the first flange, the first flange forming at least a portion of a front plow blade that extends between the left and right ends of the main body, and the first channel member also including an open bottom side;

end plates positioned at the left and right ends of the main body, the end plates including portions that extend rearwardly beyond the main body so as to define a volume behind the main body between the end plates, the volume being adapted for receiving grading material when the implement is moved rearwardly;

a rear blade positioned at the back of the main body, the rear blade having a cutting edge that faces in a rearward direction, and the rear blade having a length that extends between the end plates; and

wherein bottoms of the end plates are generally flush with a bottom side of the main body, and are also generally flush with the cutting edge of the rear blade.

6. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, wherein the end plates are oriented in generally vertical planes, and wherein the side blades are oriented generally perpendicular relative to the length of the main body.

7. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, wherein the end plates each extend rearwardly beyond the main body by a length of at least 3 inches, and each of the end plates has a height of at least 5 inches.

8. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, wherein the end plates each extend rearwardly beyond the main body by a length of at least 6 inches, and each of the end plates has a height of at least 5 inches.

9-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The implement of claim 1,~~ A grading implement comprising:
a main body including a left end, a right end and a length that extends between the left and right ends, the main body also including a front and a back, the main body further including a first channel member having a length that extends between the left and right ends of the main body, the first channel member including a top wall and first and second spaced-apart flanges that extend downwardly from the top wall, the top wall and the first and second flanges extending along the length of the first channel member, the first flange of the first channel member being located at the front of the main body and the second flange being rearwardly spaced from the first flange, the first flange forming at least a portion of a front plow blade that extends between the left and right ends of the main body, and the first channel member also including an open bottom side;
end plates positioned at the left and right ends of the main body, the end plates including portions that extend rearwardly beyond the main body so as to define a volume behind the main body between the end plates, the volume being adapted for receiving grading material when the implement is moved rearwardly;
a rear blade positioned at the back of the main body, the rear blade having a cutting edge that faces in a rearward direction, and the rear blade having a length that extends between the end plates; and

wherein the rear blade extends generally perpendicularly between the end plates and includes a generally horizontal bottom surface and a beveled top surface, the beveled top surface

angling upwardly as the beveled top surface extends forwardly from the cutting edge of the rear blade.

12-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, further comprising an adapter including a coupler configured to be coupled to a vehicle, the adapter being detachably connectable to the main body of the implement by removable pins.

16. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, further comprising an adapter including coupling means for coupling the adapter to an attachment structure of a skid steer loader, the adapter also including first and second generally parallel extensions that project outwardly from the coupling means, the adapter further including posts that project downwardly from the first and second extensions, the posts being detachably connected to the main body of the implement by removable pins, the extensions being configured to slide within sleeves positioned at a top side of the main body.

17. (Previously Presented) A grading implement comprising:

a main body including a left end and a right end, the main body also including a length that extends between the left and right ends, the main body further including a front and a back;

a front plow blade positioned at the front of the main body, the front plow blade extending between the left and right ends of the main body and including a front surface for pushing grading material and a back surface for dragging grading material;

the main body defining a cavity located beneath the main body and positioned behind the front plow blade; and

side blades positioned at the left and right ends of the main body, the side blades including portions that extend rearwardly beyond the main body so as to define a volume behind the main body between the side blades, the volume being adapted for receiving grading material when the implement is moved rearwardly;

an adapter including a coupler configured to be coupled to a vehicle, the adapter being detachably connectable to the main body of the implement;

the adapter including at least a pair of extensions, and the implement including sleeves mounted to the main body for receiving the extensions;

wherein the extensions are hollow and sized to receive tines of the vehicle for allowing the implement to be reverse mounted to the vehicle.

18. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 16, wherein the first and second extensions are hollow and sized to receive tines of the vehicle for allowing the implement to be reverse mounted to the vehicle.

19. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein the length of the main body is at least 7 feet.

20. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein the length of the main body is at least 10 feet.

21. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, wherein the end plates each have a height of at least 5 inches.

22. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, wherein the end plates each extend rearwardly beyond the main body by a length of at least 3 inches.

23. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, wherein the end plates each extend rearwardly beyond the main body by a length of at least 6 inches.

24. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, wherein the first channel member has a generally C-shaped cross-section.

25. (Previously Presented) The implement of claim 1, further comprising an adapter for coupling the main body of the implement to a skid steer loader, the adapter being detachable from the main body of the implement, wherein when the main body of the implement is detached

from the adapter, the main body defines a maximum height less than 9.5 inches and a maximum width less than 54 inches.

26-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) A grading implement comprising:

a main body including a left end and a right end, the main body also including a length that extends between the left and right ends, the main body further including a front and a back, the main body also including a c-channel member that extends from the left end to the right end of the main body, the c-channel member defining a downwardly facing channel;

the c-channel member forming at least a portion of a front plow blade positioned at the front of the main body, the front plow blade extending between the left and right ends of the main body and including a front surface for pushing grading material and a back surface for dragging grading material;

end plates positioned at the left and right ends of the main body, the end plates including portions that extend rearwardly beyond the main body so as to define a volume behind the main body between the end plates, the volume being adapted for receiving grading material when the implement is moved rearwardly;

a rear blade positioned at the back of the main body, the rear blade having a cutting edge that faces in a rearward direction, and the rear blade having a length that extends between the end plates; and

a connection arrangement for coupling the main body of the grading implement to a skid steer loader, the connection arrangement including means for interfacing with an attachment structure provided on the front lift arms of a skid steer loader.

30. (Previously Presented) The grading implement of claim 29, wherein the front plow blade and the rear blade are not pivotally movable relative to the end plates.

31. (Previously Presented) The grading implement of claim 29, wherein bottoms of the end plates are generally flush with the cutting edge of the rear blade and a bottom edge of the front plow blade.

32. (Previously Presented) The grading implement of claim 29, wherein the main body is detachable from the connection arrangement.

33. (Previously Presented) The grading implement of claim 32, wherein the main body is connected to the connection arrangement by cotter pins.

34. (Previously Presented) The grading implement of claim 32, wherein when the main body of the implement is detached from the connection arrangement, the main body defines a maximum height less than 9.5 inches and a maximum width less than 54 inches.

35. (Previously Presented) The grading implement of claim 29, wherein the end plates are oriented in generally vertical planes, wherein the end plates are generally perpendicular relative to the length of the main body, and wherein the end plates include portions that extend upwardly higher than a top surface of the main body.

36. (Previously Presented) The grading implement of claim 29, wherein the end plates each extend rearwardly beyond the main body by a length of at least 3 inches, and each of the end plates has a height of at least 5 inches.

37. (Previously Presented) The grading implement of claim 29, wherein the end plates each extend rearwardly beyond the main body by a length of at least 6 inches, and each of the end plates has a height of at least 5 inches.

38. (Previously Presented) The grading implement of claim 29, wherein the rear blade extends generally perpendicularly between the end plates and includes a generally horizontal bottom surface and a beveled top surface, the beveled top surface angling upwardly as the beveled top surface extends forwardly from the cutting edge of the rear blade.

39. (Previously Presented) The grading implement of claim 38, wherein bottoms of the end plates are generally co-planar with the horizontal bottom surface of the rear blade and are also generally co-planar with the a bottom edge of the front plow blade.